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Dear Friends,

Today we learned that unemployment for the month of October was 9%. Last month, 13.9 million unemployed Americans were looking for jobs, and an additional 8.9 million Americans were working part-time because they could not find full time employment. Our economy has lost over 2 million jobs since President Obama's stimulus package was passed in February 2009. Unfortunately, these statistics are not news to many people in Missouri. Every week, as I talk with constituents, it is clear that creating jobs and putting people back to work is our country's top priority.

While the President has advocated for more stimulus spending, paid for with higher taxes, House Republicans have been working on common-sense ways to help our economy get back on track. In fact, we have passed [numerous job-creating bills this year](#) , most of which have been held up by Democrats in the Senate.

When I talk to job creators in Missouri, the same problems come up again and again. High taxes, burdensome government regulation, and a lack of access to capital. This week I supported two bills that address the problem of access to capital: [Access to Capital for Job Creators Act](#) and the [Entrepreneur Access to Capital Act](#)

. If you are interested in learning more about the jobs bills we are passing, visit our [Jobs Tracker](#) page or read the [Republican Plan for Job Creators](#)

On a different note, yesterday I introduced a bill called the [Open Burn Pit Registry Act](#) . Over the last few years, I have worked with a number of veterans in my district who are suffering from

complicated health issues that appear to be linked to exposure to burn pits in Iraq or Afghanistan. These burn pits were used to dispose of all kinds of things, exposing veterans to dangerous toxins. My bill creates a registry within the Department of Veterans Affairs to help study this issue and provide better care for veterans who were affected. I was honored to have Aubrey Tapley, a veteran from Elsberry, Missouri, [join me in Washington to introduce this bill](#) and to share her story. I already have bipartisan support for the bill as well as endorsements from almost all of the national veterans organizations. As we look forward to celebrating Veterans Day next week, I am committed to doing all I can to support our veterans.

Thank you for the opportunity to represent you in Congress. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding these or any other issues, via [email](#) , [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) .

Sincerely,

W. Todd Akin

P.S. Please join me in recognizing the veterans in our community over this next week. Whether it is thanking a friend or family member in person, attending a Veterans Day event, or even posting a message on Facebook or Twitter, please take the time to thank those who have served our country bravely.